

the Proc. Cal. Acad. Sciences (Series 2, Vol. V, p. 36), he makes the following remarks concerning my "Tres Marias, etc.," list: "Out of 294 in the catalogue, about 200 occur in the Gulf and several others on the west coast. It is not, therefore, as complete a list of Gulf shells as we might expect from collections made by the U. S. Fish Commission Steamer 'Albatross,' with its facilities for dredging and collecting otherwise." As my paper does not purport to be a list of the "Albatross" collections in the regions under consideration, but only includes incidentally such species as were collected by the "Albatross" naturalists at a few points only, viz., "Baelenas and Pichelinque Bays, etc., so far as the same have been worked up at this date," as is distinctly stated, further comment is unnecessary.

Los Angeles, Cal., April 5, 1897.

ON A NEW FORM OF POLYGYRA FROM NEW MEXICO.

BY W. H. DALL.

Polygyra rhyssa Dall, n. sp.

Shell of six rounded whorls, dark yellowish-brown, the suture rather deep and the spire low but not flattened; nuclear whorls nearly smooth, the rest of the shell rather coarsely obliquely striated, the last fourth of the last whorl with rather sharp elevated riblets with wider interspaces and a marked constriction behind the reflected peristome; umbilicus small, deep; periphery above the middle of the whorl rounded, the entire surface more or less distinctly finely spirally striate; aperture subcircular, oblique, with a reflected and rather solid peristome with a small obscure thickening on its basal part, a light wash of callus over the body, and slightly within the aperture a small oblique elongated parietal denticle. Major diameter 17, minor diameter 14; height 9 mm.

White Mountains of New Mexico, Ashmun.

This species is about the size of *P. chiricahuana* Dall, from which it differs by its strong sculpture, somewhat larger umbilicus, more distinct suture and oral armature. The form of the mouth resembles that of *P. pseudodonta* Dall, but the basal thickening of the lip is not notched and the shell is decidedly larger, more coarsely sculptured and somewhat darker in color. It forms another illustration of the effect of insulation on the mountain peaks by arid lowlands

in producing differentiation in a single type of shell. *P. levettei*, *chiricahuana*, *ashmuni*, *pseudodonta* and *rhyssa* are obviously offshoots of a common stock.

CONCHOLOGICAL NOTES FROM LOUISIANA.

BY LORRAINE S. FRIERSON.

Being, so far as I know, the only student of conchology in Louisiana, perhaps a few notes may be of interest.

My station consists of an arm of Red River (Bayou Pierre), a lake and numerous creeks.

In these waters occur about 50 species of Mollusca, of which 30 are Unionidæ. An interesting fact, and one which I have never seen mentioned, is the sharp line of separation between the forms found in the creeks and those growing in the Red River waters.

In the creeks are found 5 Unios and 2 Anodontas. While in the Red River waters are found 25 Unionidæ. No creek shell grows in Red River waters (with but two exceptions noted below) and no species living in Red River waters are ever found in the creeks.

At the junction of a creek with the river occurs a zone where *no mollusca can be found*. The exceptions noted are *U. texasensis* Lea, which, while pre-eminently a *creek* shell, is found *sparingly* in Red River waters. Another possible exception is in the case of *U. declivis* Say. This shell is found abundantly in the creeks, and grows to a large size. A rather rare shell is found in the Red River waters which is said by our authorities to be a form of *U. declivis* Say known as *tetralasmus* Say or *geometricus* Lea.

Declivis proper never occurs in the Red River waters, nor does *tetralasmus* ever grow in creek waters. Perhaps this fact will help show that these shells are really distinct species and not synonyms.

The most variable and, perhaps, the most abundant Unio is *U. multiplicatus* Lea. West of the Mississippi drainage this shell merges into *U. eightsii* Lea, and here, at the middle ground, a mixture of types is seen. An interesting shell is sparingly found here, close to its extreme southern limit, probably. It is a dwarfed, almost "run out" form of *U. donaciformis* Lea. Another "Yankee down south" is a very small but brilliantly colored *Anodonta suborbiculata* Say. It is found in the soft, deep mud of Edwards' Lake, and disputes its territory with *Anodonta virens* Lea. *A. imbecilis*